

Beware

There's Nothing Wrong With Making Mistakes, But Don't Respond With Encores

"It is time for a change" is the theme of the new Washington. We all agree, but farmers in particular had better watch that "change" carefully. There are 95 of "them" and 5 of you farmers. And the 95 think they are subsidizing you when actually you are subsidizing them.

We **empathize** with the homeless, the handicapped, the poor, the jobless, the aged and the spotted owl. But we can't afford to spend all of our money and efforts on the non-producer, while overlooking those who make the country great . . . the producers.

One area threatened is agricultural research and Extension. Too few realize their contributions to America in production agriculture. Everywhere, positions are being eliminated and budgets slashed. The public is unconcerned . . . unaware of the role that agricultural research and Extension play in full shelves and reasonable prices.

"Time for change" affects research and Extension in another way. The emphasis is shifting from production to community development, food safety and environmental issues. Great . . . but not at the expense of production.

Beware! Don't let "them" threaten your future and theirs by crippling these research and educational programs.

J. Fielding Reed

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